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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/843,344	04/25/2001	John C. Eichstaedt	IND/I	8529

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EXAMINER

JEANTY, ROMAIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3623

DATE MAILED: 05/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Final Office action is in response to the communication received on February 21, 2006. Claims 16-19 and 53-56 are pending in the application.

### **Response to Arguments**

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 16-19 and 53-56 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112**

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 16-19 and 53-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 16 and 53 recite that the “dynamically creating a search menu using the metadata Attributes”. However, it is not understood how the search menu can be created using the metadata attributes if the search has already been performed. It is noted that the search menu should be created prior of the user searching of the component. Appropriate action is required.

Claims 17-19 and 54-59 depend from independent claims 116 and 53 and are therefore are rejected under 35 USC 112 second.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 16-19 and 53-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thackson (US Patent No. 6,928,396) in view of Beauchesne (US Patent No. 6,128,626).

As per claims 16, 18-19, 54-56, Thackson a system for receiving specification and other information. In so doing, Thackson discloses associating a particular metadata attributes (attribute data relating to a manufacturing part; col. 5, lines 35-51), displaying a graphical model of the component and allowing a user to select the graphical model (col. 16 lines 39-56), performing a search of a search of a component database using the metadata attributes, and dynamically creating a search menu using the metadata attributes, and the respective values obtained from the component database (col. 36, line 65 through col. 37 line 64). Beauchesne in the same field of endeavor, discloses the concept of storing information pertaining to manufacturing assembly information which comprises a search menu using metadata attributes in a product database (col. 3, lines 26-60). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosures of Thacksson to include the teachings of Beauchesne in order to obtain the current list of approved vendor information for components data.

As per claims 17 and 54, Thackson further discloses providing the user with the ability to search on the basis selected from a group consisting of category, site part number, supplier part number, manufacturer part number, keyword (col. 4, lines 53-67).

Claim 53 is a system for using a collaborative commerce application for searching for a particular component for use in a fluid processing plant, for performing the steps of method claim 16; therefore claim 53 is rejected under the same rationale relied upon of claim 16.

### **Conclusion**

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Moore (US Patent No. 5,877,961) discloses a system for receiving a work order, assigning an identifier to the work order and allowing a user to search for part number.

b. Rajala (U.S. Patent No. 7,003,729) discloses a method for supporting multiple alternative graphical user interfaces in computer-moderated electronic commerce.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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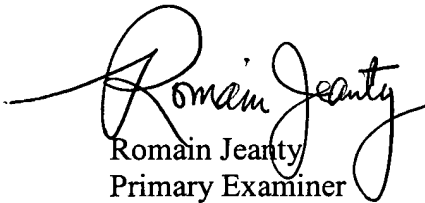
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Romain Jeanty whose telephone number is (571) 272-6732. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 7:30AM - 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq R. Hafiz can be reached on (571) 272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RJ

May 13, 2006

  
Romain Jeanty  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3623